



## **Bombala Precinct Trail August 2023**

Part of the planning for the Monaro Rail Trail is to set up short trails at each village and town along the route. These are intended to provide an opportunity for visitors to explore the local village and may encourage them to stay a little longer. The trails also serve as a recreation facility for the local residents.

These precinct trails can be developed separately from the MRT as smaller projects. In 2021 we successfully applied for a grant to develop a 3km precinct trail at Bombala, the southern trail end point of the MRT. Funds came from the Boco Rock Community Development Fund (an annual grant provided by the local wind farm owners The Electricity Generating Public Company Limited or EGCO).

Using the \$53K grant and with much planning and design input from the Bombala community and staff at Snowy Monaro Regional Council, we were able to deliver -

- Maps and Signage for the cycling and walking trail around Bombala utilising the existing riverside paths and route to the Bombala town lookout. The precinct trail also includes a diversion to visit the Railway Station grounds, the historic machinery shed and Visitor Information Centre.

- Brochures with maps of the trail for Visitor Centre to give to visitors.

- Path upgrades at the railway station footbridge and near the downstream river footbridge. These areas were previously quite degraded and in need of repair.

Many local businesses were involved in delivering this project. These included local contractors (Darrell Grant, JJ Bobbin, Hodak Haulage and MCH Welding and Fabrication), material suppliers (Schmidt Quarries Nimmitabel, Bombala Electrical and Hardware), graphic design (Magic Design Workshop, Albury), map and brochure printing (Southeast Printing, Cooma) and wayfinding signs (Barrier Signs, Taree).

We would like to also acknowledge considerable support from the staff at Snowy Monaro Regional Council who helped with the planning and design stage and the eventual installation of the wayfinding signs. John "Rusty" Neven of Bombala Cycles and Chainsaws provided invaluable help with the project.

Work on the precinct trail was completed in July 2023 and it is pleasing to see members of the Bombala community now using and enjoying the trail.



Above. Hodak Haulage delivering road base from Schmidt quarries.



Left. Darrell Grant laying paths



Right. Part of the Riverside trail



Left. At the opening from left Mark Adams SMRC. Peter Bascomb CEO SMRC, Frank Bakker MRT Inc. Kristy McBain MP Eden Monaro. Narell Davis, Mayor SMRC.



Left. Dave Byrne MRT Inc. Local residents and Boco rock Community Fund committee members, Frances Lomas and Alicia Carraro. Local business owner, John Neven with dog Molly, both of Bombala Cycles and Chainsaws and Frank Bakker MRT Inc.